Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

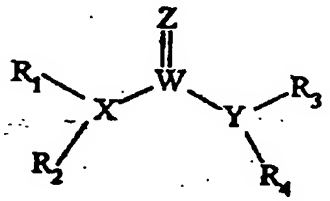
Listing of Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-13.

Please enter the following new claims.

14. (New) A method of reducing blood pressure in a patient, the method comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of an inhibitor of soluble epoxide hydrolase.

15. (New) A method of claim 14, wherein the inhibitor is a compound having a structure of:



wherein Z is oxygen or sulfur, W is carbon phosphorous or sulfur, X and Y is each independently nitrogen, oxygen, or sulfur, and X can further be carbon, at least one of R_1 - R_4 is hydrogen, R_2 is hydrogen when X is nitrogen but is not present when X is sulfur or oxygen, R_4 is hydrogen when Y is nitrogen but is not present when Y is sulfur or oxygen, R_1 and R_3 is each independently C_1 -C_{20} substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, acyl, or

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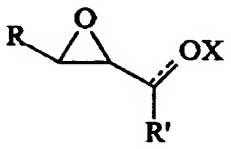
heterocyclic.

16. (New) A method of claim 15, wherein W is carbon and Z is oxygen.

17. (New) A method of claim 15, wherein X is nitrogen.

18. (New) A method of claim 15, wherein Y is nitrogen.

19. (New) A method of claim 14, wherein the inhibitor is a compound having a structure of:



wherein R is alkyl or aryl, the compound is *trans*-across the epoxide ring, OX is a carbonyl (=O) or hydroxy group (OH), and R' is a H, alkyl or aryl group.

20. (New) A method of claim 19, wherein said inhibitor has a structure wherein R, R', and X--Y are as follows:

(a) when R is C_6H_5, R' is C_6H_5, and X--Y is selected from the group consisting of: C=O, CH–OH, C=NOH, S=O, and CH–OCH_3,

(b) when R is 4-F–C_6H_4, R' is C_6H_5, and X–Y is selected from the group consisting of C=O and CH–OH;

(c) when R is 4-C_6H_5–C_6H_4, and R' is C_6H_5, X–y is selected from the group consisting of C=O, CH–OH, C=NOH, S=O and CH–OCH_3;

(d) when R is 4-C_6H_5 – C_6H_4, and R' is 4-CH_3 –C_6H_4, X–Y is selected from the group consisting of C=O and CH–OH;

(e) when R is $C_{10}H_7$, R' is C_6H_5 and X–Y is C=O;

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(f) when R is 4-NO_2–C_6H_4, and R' is CH_3, X–Y is selected from the group consisting of C–O and CH–OH; or

(g) when R is 4-NO_2 –C_6H_4, and R' is H, X–Y is CH–OH.

21. (New) A method of claim 14, wherein the inhibitor is a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.

22. (New) A method of claim 14, wherein the inhibitor is administered orally.

23. (New) A method of claim 14, wherein the inhibitor is administered in a total daily dose from about 0.001 μM/kg to about 100 mg/kg body weight of the patient.

24. (New) A method of claim 14, wherein the patient has hypertension.

25. (New) A method of claim 24, wherein the hypertension is essential hypertension.

26. (New) A method of claim 14, wherein said blood pressure reduction comprises a reduction in systolic blood pressure.

27. (New) A method of claim 14, wherein said patient has high normal blood pressure.

28. (New) A method of claim 14, wherein the patient is at risk for cardiovascular disease, renal disease, or stroke.

29. (New) A method of claim 14, wherein the patient has cardiovascular disease or renal disease.

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